

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Store for stocking tubes therein comprising:

- means-(4) for feeding tubes-(1) into the store, and means-(7) for unloading the tubes (1) therefrom, the store being located between said supply means-(4) and said unloading means (7);

5 - a plurality of supports-(8) each of which defines a plane inclined towards said unloading means-(7) and able to receive a plurality of tubes-(1) from said supply means-(4): each of said supports-(8) being movable between a stand-by position where it is empty, a position of transit of tubes-(1) in which it defines an inclined plane which connects said tube-supplying means-(4) to said tube-unloading means-(7), and a stock position in which it is full
10 up; each of said supports-(8) consisting of a central bar or cross-piece to which more rods-(81) are fixed orthogonally thereto and the said supports being connected to each other via two open side chains-(85), store characterized in that the said side chains-(85) are connected to said bars (80).

2. (Currently Amended) Store according to claim 1, characterized in that the movement for disposing said supports-(8) to said stand-by, transit and stock positions is developed in the vertical direction.

3. (Currently Amended) Store according to ~~claims~~ claim 1 ~~and 2~~, characterized in that the said transit position is intermediate between the stand-by and stock positions.

4. (Currently Amended) Store according to ~~claims~~ claim 1-3, characterized in that in the said stand-by position, the said supports (8) result below said transit position.

5. (Currently Amended) Store according to ~~one or more preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that, in correspondence of said means-(4) for feeding the tubes-(1), provision is made for a plurality of fixed chutes-(11) oriented towards the store, and in that, in correspondence of said means-(7) for unloading the tubes-(1), provision is made for a plurality
5 of fixed chutes-(12) oriented towards the same means-(7) and extending towards the store.

6. (Currently Amended) Store according to ~~one or more preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that it comprises two pairs of uprights-(82) which act as guides for said supports-(8).

7. (Currently Amended) Store according to ~~one or more preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that it has a variable geometry.